

# Incidents Involving *Field Workers* Reported in California<sup>1</sup> Associated With<sup>2</sup> Pesticide Residue Exposure Summarized by Crop and Type of Illness 2000

Crop	Systemic/ Respiratory <sup>3</sup>		Topical <sup>3</sup>		TOTAL
	Definite/ Probable	Possible	Definite/ Probable	Possible	
BERRIES					
Strawberries	0	0	0	1	1
CITRUS					
Oranges	0	17	0	0	17
FIBER CROP					
Cotton	0	1	0	1	2
GRAPES					
Grapes	18	7	2	17	44
ORNAMENTAL					
Ornamental Plants (Other or Unspecified)	0	2	0	1	3
Roses	1	0	0	0	1
POME FRUIT					
Pears	0	1	0	0	1
VEGETABLE, FRUITING					
Peppers	0	0	0	1	1
Tomatoes	2	0	0	1	3
VEGETABLE, LEAFY/STEM					
Broccoli	0	1	0	0	1
Lettuce	0	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	21	30	2	22	75

<sup>1</sup> **Source:** California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Pesticide Illness and Surveillance Program.

<sup>2</sup> **Associated With:** Includes cases classified as definitely, probably or possibly related to pesticide exposure

- Definite : High degree of correlation between pattern of exposure and resulting symptomatology. Requires both medical evidence (such as measured cholinesterase inhibition, positive allergy tests, characteristic signs observed by medical professional) and physical evidence of exposure (environmental and/or biological samples, exposure history) to support the conclusions.
- Probable : Relatively high degree of correlation exists between the pattern of exposure and the resulting symptomatology. Either medical or physical evidence is inconclusive or unavailable.

Possible : Some degree of correlation evident. Medical and physical evidence are inconclusive or unavailable.

<sup>3</sup> **Type of Illness:** Categorization of the type of symptoms experienced.

Systemic : Any health effects not limited to the respiratory or skin and/or eye. Cases involving multiple illness symptom types including systemic symptoms are included in the systemic category.  
Respiratory : Health effects involving any part of the respiratory tree.  
Topical : Health effects involving only the eyes and/or skin. This excludes outward physical signs (miosis and lacrimation) related to effects on internal bodily systems. These signs are classified under 'Systemic.'

#### **Whom to Contact:**

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#### **About the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program Data**

Pesticide-related illnesses have been tracked within the state of California for nearly 50 years. The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) maintains a surveillance program which records human health effects of pesticide exposure. The Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) documents information on adverse effects from pesticide products, whether elicited by the active ingredients, inert ingredients, impurities, or breakdown products. This program maintains a database, which is utilized for evaluating the circumstances of pesticide exposures resulting in illness. This database is consulted regularly by staff who evaluate(s) the effectiveness of the DPR pesticide safety programs and recommend changes when appropriate.